

CIGARETTE PAPERS.
By JOSEPH HATTON.

London-by-the-Sea.

Whenever the sun shines in England it bestows an exclusive refuge upon Brighton. It has been known, they say, to shine exclusively on "this city by the sea." Brightonians are as proud of the natural advantages of the place as Chicagoans of their lake-side settlement. Chicago, anyhow, may claim championship for the variety of its weather. An old friend of mine, Mr. Emery Storer, publicist and layer of distinction, who lived a mile or two beyond the city limits, said "Chicago! Oh, yes, Chicago is great in that way; I start from home of a morning in the lightest of clothes, with a summer duster coat; by the time I reach my office I meet Chicago on sleighs; it is winter." Brighton is not in that competition, but having rivaled London in her shops and hotels, she is doing what all imitators do—repeating the worst side of her model; and she is taken to fogs. The authorities must be warned against this. Some day in the Twentieth Century London will compel householders as well as manufacturers to burn their own smoke. Then we may have as much smoke of Brighton, and the County Council will bring the sea to town and at every tide pour it into artificial lakes and private service pipes. Meanwhile, Brighton has the sunshine and the sea, and there is no favour of soot and hopped herrings in her fogs, and when they lift she is not covered with grime. When I left London the great city was shivering in a wet cloak driven by a south-east wind. If you had been an artist you might have depicted her as a hunted figure, riding a wild high-grade cycle, on her way to Charon's Ferry. By contrast your Brighton would have been a modern Diana with flying skirts and daintily gloved hands gently resting upon silver handle-bars, the glittering spokes of her wheels sparkling in the sun.

"Over the Hills and Far Away."

After a bad time in town Brighton is a new and happy world (an hour from London) they say, but that is a popular fiction invented by the Railway Company, and it might be a thousand miles from the metropolis, so local and remote its interests. The war in the East is a tremendous reality in London, but a mere incident of foreign news at Brighton. The procession on the King's road goes on with its easy and unaffected smile, the wheelers once in a way, however, trying to run down a coach that the hospital may not be unoccupied. The great town continues to grow towards Shoreham, and Shoreham towards Worthing, until one day Brighton may apply for an Act to bring all the county within its boundaries, and seek to rival London in population. That is what New York has done, crossed her two rivers and an arm of the sea and taken in (or is about to do so) several other cities, to ouststrip the world of vast communities and compare her increased population with the English metropolis. Should she eclipse us in this way London will have to violently grab another city or two. At present she is content to absorb one after another through the pioneering builder, who, day by day, puts out new streets into the country, and annexes the outer world. Her outposts are so far away that those of her Majesty's subjects who are looking for a quiet retreat from the blaring trumpets of June must seek "over the hills and far away." Of course certain of our Irish friends will retire to their native hills and dales and lovely seaside retreats, unless in the way of a bit of good nature they forgive her Majesty on the day of her record reign for being Queen of Ireland. And, by the way, English excursionists can respond to this concession by making old Ireland the scene of their summer holidays. An Anglo-Irish Society is at work to promote this object. They are revising the hotel accommodation, extending railway facilities, and improving the roads; they would also improve the roads and the general character of the Irish peasants; they could, but these are inimitable. Good luck to this good League of Anglo-Irish friendship, and 20,000 extra tourists for Killarney!

The War Correspondent.

If the soldier loves war for the glory of it and the chances of promotion, the special correspondent of the great newspaper delights in it none the less, though his chances of distinction, except in the narrow circle of an office in Fleet-st., are few, and his duties are as perilous as those of the fighting men. Long ago he scented the battle from afar; for months had he been on the trail of the Greeks across the Turkish frontier; and on both sides he was among the first at the front. The adventures of war correspondents, their perils by flood and field, their splendid conduct in the heat of battle, their marvellous rides with despatches, their strange escapes and their gallant, if pathetic deaths, would make a thrilling volume of heroic deeds. During the Franco-German and Russo-Turkish wars they were continually liable to arrest and execution as spies. In the former conflict the French had a mania for seeing in every stranger a Prussian spy. Illustrations of French thermometers, falling to it, and several English correspondents had a narrow escape of death in a chase aux espions. George Augustus Sala, well known as he was, had a very bad time of it under arrest, and Laing Mason was rescued almost in presence of the firing party told off to shoot him. At a press fund dinner a few years ago Lord Salisbury was particularly happy, not to say appreciative, in his reference to the arduous labours of the special correspondent. "He seems," said his lordship, "to be forced to combine in himself the power of a first-class steeple-chaser with the power of the most brilliant writer—the most wonderful physical endurance with the most remarkable vigour." When one says a special correspondent wins no distinction, one perhaps ought to qualify it by adding not in proportion to his risks, and out of all comparison with the fame that falls to the lot of a successful commander. Dr. Sir Howard Russell, Archibald Forbes, Frederic Villiers, H. M. Stanley, others will live in the history of the great wars of our time, and their names belong to the best records of journalism. For the feats Villiers has performed under fire he might, by this time, in the set, have been a major-general. A man well under the fascination of journalism entrusted with what may be called the portfolio of war, parks his portmanteau and hurries to the front as expeditiously as the most enthusiastic warrior; and no hardships are too great, no risk too

serious for him to undertake in giving his editor the latest and best news of the campaign. When the dangers of a fight are over, and he has shared some of the sharpest perils of the encounter, his hardest and most dangerous work has often to come riding to some out-post to get off his despatches. Frederic Villiers.

The Adventures of Forbes, Russell, and Stanley are pretty well known to most people; but Villiers is a less familiar figure. "The tragedy of campaigning," he said to me not long since, "so far as I am concerned has been on the scale of armies, rarely in respect of individuals, except in the awful business of that march on Khartoum, when Cameron of the Standard and St. Leger Herbert of the 'Morning Post' lost their lives. I poor Herbert was shot by my side. I was nearly drowned in the Nile, and I suppose I was lucky not to get lost in the square at Tama. But I believe my first experience of war is the one that will live longest in my memory," and yet he was decorated in the field by a famous Russian commander for bravery in bringing in the wounded under fire; was the only English correspondent who accompanied the Russian army on its entry into Constantinople; received the cross of the Danube; and was at Tel-el-Kebir. Forbes related the narrow escape the artist-correspondent had at the battle of Teb; he was inside the leading square at Tama when the Arab rush broke it, and he managed to ride through a ring of fierce assailants.

A First Experience of Warfare. "Tell me," I said, "about that first experience that you are not likely to forget." "It was during the Servian campaign," said Villiers. "I was marching with the Servians. Some shells were bursting in the scrub ahead of us. One of the trees was blown to bits, and the hub of it was like wild music. This made me wonder a little. Presently the Servian battery limbered up and began to retire. While I was watching this operation a body of Servian infantry, who had been lying under cover of the scrub in front, rushed past me in more or less disorder. As they made for the road where the guns were disappearing, a shell burst in the midst of them. The next moment I realised all the horrors of the situation; I knew, as I say, what was for the first time. Half a dozen poor fellows lay around me literally torn to pieces. It was an awful sight. I tried to steady myself, and did; for after all this was part of the tragic drama I had come to illustrate. I drew my sketch book from my belt and made my first serious war picture."

A Pleasant Mistake.

Mr. Lawrence Hutton, who loves London as perhaps only an American can love it, with an admiration and a knowledge that comes first of English books and poetic tradition, and then of excursions to this Mecca of the cultured American of English descent, is well known on our side of the Atlantic, personally and through his work. His "Literary Landmarks of London" is an example of what "a labour of love" should be, and it shows a mastery of literary and historic London that is very notable in one who is not "native to the manner born." At the Stoddard banquet in New York, concerning which we rolled a cigarette together last week, Mr. Hutton related an experience that has a chivalric side one delights to dwell upon. Take an illustration. Suppose a company of distinguished men pay a comparative stranger the compliment of a little "dinner reception," and by some similarity of name the invitation gets into the hands of a fellow-citizen who at the time has no special claim on their united hospitable attention, and he responds to the welcome intended for another, is there not something innately chivalric in the hosts, without question they receive him, make much of him, and keep the secret until years afterwards, when he is himself sufficiently distinguished to throw in his star to your charge for sale.

A Reader.—Have I turned out by the police as a trespasser.

SHEEDWELL.—If purely accidental, no cause.

FARCLER.—You had better make application to the High Court.

ADVICE.—In any name.

C. H. B.—See reply to "Seedwell."

TWO ORPHANS.—Not until you attain your majority.

PATER.—He had the power.

LAUNDRY.—Must turn out at end of the 3 years; otherwise will have to pay the cost of ejection.

LAUNDRY.—You can sell.

ZEST.—He is entitled to demand payment before he can sell.

CARAVAN.—It only guarantees employment; nothing is said about remuneration.

BALBERNO.—Nothing can be done.

G. LAMPET.—Submit the mortgage deed to a solicitor.

CONTARY READER (Windsor).—You must pay, probably the skin was moth eaten before I went to the dressers.

J. C. P. J. W.—No announcement has yet appeared.

WATFORD.—He cannot refuse so long as the bill of exchange has not been exceeded.

TRAVELLER.—It apparently presented the sign of exhaustion.

R. R. H.—No legal offence if done with the customer's consent.

T. ABSORT.—Not illegal.

J. DE LA MAZE.—You had better write to the legal practitioner in the Channel Islands.

WARTH.—See him for the value; he's clearly liable.

SAROWA.—The amount advanced beyond the £500 is a separate debt, for which your hypothetical securities are not liable.

OSMAN.—Can distract.

H. F. W.—It is impossible to estimate the cost of removal.

S.—You have no longer any claim on your second husband, but your claim on the first stands good.

SARME.—It was purposed to be an accident, you are not responsible.

S.—As often as you possess any to sell, New Gashers.—The personal property would be divided among the next of kin, in accordance with the rules.

INHERITANCE.—The eldest son takes the real estate; all the personalty is equally divided among the children.

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NEWTON ROBINSON.—Much too long an affair, and far too intricate to be dealt with here. Submit all the documents to a solicitor.

W. ALLAN.—The ejected brother's son takes the bill of exchange, the rest goes to the widow.

R. H. A.—As the man was in your employ, you are liable. A second bill can be made out.

J. REED.—The original agreement holds good under the new landlord.

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DIAMOND DUST.

By CLAYTON BENNETT.

AUTHOR OF "THE MALAY PRIEST," "THE TRAP DIAMOND," ETC.

CHAPTER VII.

MARL'S WILL BEFORE THE COURT.

The disappearance of Matthew Marl, madman, formed a "nine days' wonder" for the camp. The goatherd brought in the intelligence; and, in public, I questioned him most severely as to its correctness; for, very properly, I took interest in the fate of Matthew Marl—you see, he was a brother engineer! The notables of Jagersfontein discussed the exciting theme in Wallis's Hotel, and the unnotables in Cunningham's Arms. At Wallis's they would seat the herd, in ragged breeches, on the billiard-table—smooth and green as an ornamental lawn—and question him. The boy made quite a fortune in sixpences, but he did not spend them on breeches. At 12 years of age he preferred a pouch, twist of tobacco, and a new tin snuffbox. At night his parents, owners of the goats, searched the sleeping boy—they were no pocket to the breeches—and took from wherever they could find it the remaining roll of coin.

Questioned on the billiard-table, Klein Jan (Little John) would answer: "I went to Myneher Marl's with goat's milk. Outside the house were a bundle, in a blue handkerchief, and a stick. On the top of the bundle perched the crow. Myneher was not inside. He was not come back. I did not steal the bundle, the stick, or the crow." Enthusiasts gave Klein Jan soda and whisky; and when Jan's little stomach sufficiently swelled he would roll off the table, and curl up beneath it in company with Tatters, a matted poodle, who claimed the little Hottentot as kindred species, sleep for the remainder of the day. In the evening he paid a professional visit to Cunningham's.

Official circles were also agitated by Mr. Marl's disappearance. "It," the Landdrost's (magistrate's) clerk, wisely put it, "Matthew Marl was dead, why were his bundle and his stick alive?"

The district surgeon was anxious to institute a post mortem, to secure a fee for himself, and file a remarkable cerebral organ for the Royal College of Physicians; but there was no body. The Landdrost—who had not been busy for a long time—wished for proof of probate, and the law-sharks were equally desirous of seeing a case for contesting legatees, for Marl's will had been found on the table where his hand had left it. So the Landdrost called a special court.

It was a fine morning. The legatees appeared within the white-washed walls of the low building in deep mourning; the superintendent of the gaol-hospital well represented the tramps' claim for the furniture, and put a penn'orth of crap round his arm. Only one was absent—Caspar Harley. This was considered very ungrateful on the engineer's part. The proceedings were of an exceedingly solemn character, being conducted partly in the Dutch "taal." Sobs were even audible in the building; and a salt tear was observed to fall from the gaol superintendent's eye. Each clause of the will—the signature having been proved by the witnesses, the miners Hamilton and Graham—was properly dealt with.

After discussion and reference to the Roman-Dutch law, it was agreed that the deceased—or the "disappeared" (a term invented by a witty law-agent present), which was the same thing—had had right to "name his dwelling Stone Castle."

Mrs. Wallis received her crow, together with a graceful bow from the Landdrost. The legal charges on the bird were 11s. 6d.

The superintendent of the gaol-hospital carted away the furniture—which was "before the court"—not to the gaol-hospital, but to his own house, where it was better preserved; and he uses it to this day.

No provisions were found in the house; so the poor who stood with open mouths outside—and had put on their best clothes—had to hobble off disappointed, and it is believed, cursing. The stones of the dwelling the Court was unable—as directed by the will—to order to be removed to "improve the town roads." The convicts were all found to be sick.

The Government could see no way clear to making profit by the land, because it belonged to them already.

When clause "8" was reached, the clergyman of the camp, the Rev. Jacob Van der Hoord, hastily retired from the court-house.

Clause "9" was considered as a faint accomplishment.

There were thus only two clauses which the court had "reserved for argument."

The Sanitary Inspector—who was also the witty law-agent aforesaid—rose, and read: "Clause 4—I reserve my one blanket for my burial." Now, your worship, if, according to the terms of Marl's will, there is a blanket, there must be a body; and if there is a body, there must be a burial. But, your worship, there is no body. How are we to get over the difficulty?"

"Bury the blanket without the body," suggested the sexton, in a hollow voice. "The charge would be as usual."

"Another difficulty in the way of the court. How is the *Habes Corpus* Act to be enforced?" inquired the Landdrost.

"That's it, your worship," said the Sanitary Inspector and law-agent, rapping the table.

"I think you might prove an alibi," suggested a portly and pompous attorney, rising slightly.

"Would you like to draw up the affidavit, Mr. Coote?"

"I should not be pre-pre-red, your worship. This climate is sufficiently warm for me, thank you."

Then the court laughed. When a court of justice laughs a matter is settled.

"Silence!" The scratching of the Landdrost's pen was heard for a few seconds. "Just let me see this blanket, will you?"

The blanket was held up—a sheet of dingy blue flannel, riddled as if with shot.

"My judgment is that the blanket be given to the court-constable."

The court-constable—huge Kaffir in green corduroy uniform, who spoke English—stepped forward.

"Your Workshop, I must decline to acceptance of this blanket."

"Why?"

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able, of feather bed, and a wife on it." (Laughter.)

"Very well. It shall be distributed as a European charity."

So the blanket was "cried" on the stoop, and given to the poorest old loafer.

"Mr. Sanitary Inspector—I beg your pardon—Mr. Attorney Tout, you have been retained to assist the State, I believe?"

"Yes, your worship."

"There is a remaining clause."

"Yes," Mr. Tout read from the will. "Clause 10—I leave my diamond to Caspar Harley. Where is the engineer?"

"Where is the engineer?" echoed the crowd within the white-washed walls.

"Where is the diamond?" said Mr. Tout.

"Where is the diamond?" repeated the crowd.

"Where—what—which who diamond?" interrogated Mr. Tout, who in moments of excitement was not fully grammatical.

"Who diamond?" repeated the Landdrost, whose English was Dutch, drawing his mouth into a funnel of surprise, and wondering with the whites of his eyes. "Constable of the court, all Caspar Harley."

The Kaffir went out on the stoop, and cried in a loud voice:

"Caspar Harley, one time; Caspar Harley, three time."

Caspar Harley did not "answer."

The Landdrost, his clerk, the sanitary inspector, the learned attorney, the superintendent of the gaol-hospital, the constable of the court, the people in the body—looked perplexed. "I conclude," commenced the Landdrost weakly.

At this moment there was a stir and noise in the assembly, and Mrs. Wallis burst into Court, and smilingly informed the bench that "the crow could not be found."

"If you cannot find the crow, the crow must find you!" gurgled Mr. Tout. (Laughter.)

"Then the crow is out of the jurisdiction of the Court," remarked the pompous attorney. (A smile from the bench.)

"Perhaps the crow has swallowed the diamond," suggested Mr. Tout.

"Ah!"

"Ah!"

Three "Ah's!" from the bench, the bar, and the people.

"Give the bird an aperient," said a specialist in I.D.B. cases.

"In other words, put salt on his tail," responded Mr. Tout. (Loud laughter.)

"Sal atticum," murmured the attorney, nettled.

Mr. Tout never responded to Latin.

"But the bird is not before the Court," observed the Landdrost.

Mrs. Wallis: "I paid the Court 11s. 6d. for the bird; a refund would—"

At these words the Court broke up in confusion—which was generally the case about luncheon time.

Of Mr. Marl's will it could be written: *Probatum est.*

CHAPTER VIII.

LOST AND BECKONED.

My first murder. I had lost all. And gained how much? Blood—only. The diamond was lost. Agony of mind to me. The rush of waters had received the body of Matthew Marl and swept it away. How the Marl rolled and foamed along with him. How fine to be rolled along so. An honour from the white waves. But where did they deposit the body? That was my one question. Marl yet had the casket-dead Marl yet clutched the casket.

The proceedings were of an exceedingly solemn character, being conducted partly in the Dutch "taal." Sobs were even audible in the building; and a salt tear was observed to fall from the gaol superintendent's eye. Each clause of the will—the signature having been proved by the witnesses, the miners Hamilton and Graham—was properly dealt with.

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faded figure, with bent head and folded arms, watching from the shadow beside the tall clock. I shrieked at it, cursed at it, spoke mildly to it, reasoned with it—no use, it came regularly in daylight, in darkness, and when my lamp was lit. Sometimes it rested. Spirits have couches in the abysm. But listening to the slow ticking of the clock—the one sound in the room—my attention would suddenly be distracted—a tension would come to the brain. I looked up, there was Marl's grey ghost once more! I knew that no mortal eye save mine could see it, yet the remnant of conscience soon to disappear caused me to rise, and draw the blind of the window. Beside mine, the ghost hand of Marl faded into mine, and his clothes faded into mine. Terrible! How glad then was I to rush into the air and sunshine, and clear the horror from my brain. I would traverse the Kloof's border for hours—an altered plan of action, looking downwards for the body. Yes, I went for the diamond. A thought was also with me, that if I found the body and buried it, the spirit would rest. Yet, why did not Marl accompany me in my walk? If he only required burial, I would care for him. Caspar Harley. Where is Caspar Harley?"

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"Ah!"

Three "Ah's!" from the bench, the bar, and the people.

"Give the bird an aperient," said a specialist in I.D.B. cases.

"In other words, put salt on his tail," responded Mr. Tout. (Loud laughter.)

"Sal atticum," murmured the attorney, nettled.

Mr. Tout never responded to Latin.

"But the bird is not before the Court," observed the Landdrost.

Mrs. Wallis: "I paid the Court 11s. 6d. for the bird; a refund would—"

At these words the Court broke up in confusion—which was generally the case about luncheon time.

Of Mr. Marl's will it could be written: *Probatum est.*

CHAPTER VIII.

LOST AND BECKONED.

My first murder. I had lost all. And gained how much? Blood—only. The diamond was lost. Agony of mind to me. The rush of waters had received the body of Matthew Marl and swept it away. How the Marls rolled and foamed along with him. How fine to be rolled along so. An honour from the white waves. But where did they deposit the body? That was my one question. Marl yet had the casket-dead Marl yet clutched the casket.

The proceedings were of an exceedingly solemn character, being conducted partly in the Dutch "taal." Sobs were even audible in the building; and a salt tear was observed to fall from the gaol superintendent's eye. Each clause of the will—the signature having been proved by the witnesses, the miners Hamilton and Graham—was properly dealt with.

After discussion and reference to the Roman-Dutch law, it was agreed that the deceased—or the "disappeared" (a term invented by a witty law-agent present), which was the same thing—had had right to "name his dwelling Stone Castle."

Mrs. Wallis received her crow, together with a graceful bow from the Land

OUR OMNIBUS.

PIPER PAN.

The summer musical season has now commenced, and in a week's time will be in full swing. Mr. Newman's second series of symphony concerts at Queen's Hall began last week; on Wednesday next the Philharmonic season re-opens at Queen's Hall, and on Thursday that of the Royal Choral Society at Albert Hall. The following week the Royal Opera season opens at Covent Garden, and the Mottl concerts will be resumed at Queen's Hall.

May will be, indeed, an exceptionally busy month. Besides numerous concerts at smaller halls, there are about 100 announced at St. James's and Queen's Halls alone; and the Albert Hall is pretty fully engaged. Visitors to London during the Jubilee month will have no reason to complain of a dearth of musical entertainment, for June promises to be as busy as May. In fact it will probably be more so, as many recital and concert-givers have concluded that there will be more people in the metropolis than, and consequently better patronage.

The first week at the Royal Opera, which opens on Monday week, will probably be devoted to works more or less familiar, but the production of Dr. Wilhelm Kienzle's "Der Evangelianin" is expected about a fortnight later. Dr. Kienzle's opera was produced in Berlin four years ago. The libretto is very dramatic, and the events are said to have happened in real life. Some charming children's scenes are included in the work.

I hear that over 16,000 tickets at £1 each have been sold for the Bayreuth Festival in the autumn. It was thought probable that no further single tickets for "Parsifal" alone would be issued. They could be obtained only by purchasers for seats for "Der Ring des Nibelungen" as well, the complete set costing £5 each.

In the reproduction of "The Yeoman of the Guard" at the Savoy Theatre on Wednesday evening, only two members of the original cast will take part—Miss Rosina Brandani, Dame Carruthers; and Mr. Richard Temple, Sergeant Meryl.

The new patriotic work, "The Flag of England," words by Rudyard Kipling and music by Professor Bridge, will be produced at the grand commemoration concert of the Royal Choral Society at the Albert Hall on Thursday. Madame Albani will sing the solo part. Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise" and Handel's "Zadok the Priest" will also be performed the same evening, the artists including Madames Anna Williams, Muriel Foster; Messrs. Edward Lloyd, David Price; and a band and chorus of 1,000.

It is stated that Verdi has already decided upon his place of burial. The venerable composer has chosen a charming spot in the garden of his favourite residence, and only awaits official permission to erect thereon a tomb for himself, and one for his aged spouse.

Welcome assurance of Madame Patti's recovery from indisposition is to hand in the announcement of her appearance at the first "Patti" concert on Tuesday week at the Albert Hall. The famous "diva" will have the co-operation of Mr. Edward Lloyd, and will sing with him the duet, "Tornami e dir" (Don Pasquale).

Handel's lovely oratorio, "The Creation," will be the attraction at the National Sunday League concert at Queen's Hall on Sunday evening, May 2. The vocalists are Mme. Amy Sherwin, Mr. Maldwyn Humphreys, and Mr. Robert Hilton. The N.S.L. choir and orchestra, conducted by Mr. Churchill Sibley, will also take part in the performance.

The production at Manchester, by the Carl Rosa Company, of Sigmar Puccini's opera, "The Bohemians," has proved a great success. A performance of the work in London will be looked forward to with much interest when the company have their season here.

Mr. David Bispham gives one of his interesting and artistic concerts on May 10 at St. James's Hall. Brahms' "Magelone Lieder" song cycle will be performed in its entirety for the first time in England. Mr. Bispham will read the connecting story of the work.

Mme. Nordica has been presented by the husband of the late Frau Klapfky with all the dresses for "Brunilde and Isolde," formerly worn by the deceased artiste. I hope we may see the gifted American prima donna wearing the garments at Covent Garden during the ensuing season.

Amateurs, with good voices, who would like to take part in the Victorian Era Exhibition choral concerts are invited to apply to Mr. Henry Wood, Exhibition Buildings, Earl's Court.

Mme. Enriques was very successful at the concert in aid of the Post Office Orphan Homes Institution, which took place at Kensington Town Hall last Monday. The eminent contralto won encores for both songs, and was most heartily received by the densely-packed audience.

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

A correspondent at Horsham has written me that his house at that place is infested with ants, and that they crop into everything and everywhere and are a perfect pest. There is no doubt that these little creatures are extremely a great nuisance, and the other day I was reading in "Entomological News" a note on the ants of Georgia, in which Mr. Pilate (the author) states that on his farm in the dry season "the surface of the earth is literally covered with them. When crushed or touched they emit a strong unpleasant odour, and there is no keeping them out of the house. They are covered with them. You don't think about them until you smell them, and under the rockers of a rocking chair you will kill so many of them every evening that there will be two black marks just the width and length of the rockers."

Mr. Pilate goes on to say that they seem to be ravenous all the time, and will devour every living thing that comes in their way. One of them will capture a beetle or grasshopper easily, and will be immediately assisted by its brethren. They steal the bait

from the traps set for insects, and eat the captured insects themselves. They even attack small chickens a day or two old, and gather in great hosts on the little birds' feet and head, and undoubtedly they often cause death. Of course, the Horsham ant spoken of by my friend is not of the same species as that of Georgia, and from the account given above of the latter is less voracious and much less numerous. But ants at all times, although exceedingly interesting in their habits, are not by any means pleasant companions.

The addition to the Zoological Society's menagerie during the week ending April 27 include 3 double-banded sand-grouse, spider monkey (which is apparently new to the collection), a black-headed gull, 2 refuse-seeking weaver-birds, a cactus conure, a crowned lemur, 2 ring-tailed sand-grouse, a white-fronted capucin monkey, a white-crested toucan, a Burmese sheep, a grey ichnumous, a silky cow-bird, a bonnet monkey, a rhesus monkey, a mongoose lemur, and a snake (species unknown).

Like all fur-bearing animals, the raccoon has come in for an undue



THE COMMON RACCOON.

share of persecution, and, as consequence, instead of being one of the commonest and most widely-distributed mammals in North America, it is now met with only in comparatively few numbers, except in one or two localities—such as the Adirondack mountains—which are difficult of access by man. The fur of this animal is of a rich dark brown colour, tinged with greyish, and is very dense and long. The tail is ringed alternately with black and white. The whole length of the raccoon measures about 34 inches, and its size is a little larger than that of the common badger.

The "coon," as this animal is popularly called in its native habitat, is very cunning, and affords good sport to its hunters. In habits it is nocturnal, and spends the day in sleep in the holes of decayed trees, wheres, when it is pursued by dogs when it is abroad at night, it generally takes refuge, and is dislodged by gunshot. Its bill of fare is a very varied one—in fact, nothing comes amiss to it—and with a menu of mammal, bird, fish, worm, reptile, crustacean, mollusk, and vegetable, it might be said to be almost omnivorous. It has a curious habit of always dipping its food in water before eating it, but why it should do this has never been satisfactorily explained. Many species of this animal have been exhibited in the Zoological Society's Gardens, and on several occasions it has bred there.

Through the kindness of a correspondent at Southsea, I am able to add another instance to the already long list recorded in this column from time to time of one animal acting as foster parent to another, with totally different habits. My correspondent writes as follows:—"A cat belonging to a naturalist of this town recently brought forth a family of four kittens, three of which were drowned. A day or two afterwards a nest of three young squirrels was found, and a little animal (about a week old) was taken and put with the cat. The latter, instead of exhibiting any carnivorous propensities, fondled the additions to her family, nursed them as she would her own offspring, and safely brought them up. They are now one month old, and as lively as can be, and can be seen enjoying themselves in a large cage in my friend's shop window."

THE ACTOR.

When, on Wednesday night, I dismissed my cab at the foot of the Haymarket, electing to walk to the new theatre, and thinking to arrive there sooner if I waited at the tail-end of the long procession of vehicles, I was, as it happened, ill-advised. I found great difficulty in penetrating the crowd of people whom the police had permitted—very wrongly, I think—to gather round the principal entrance. A way was cleared for the occupants of carriages, but not for pedestrians. However, there was probably great difficulty in dealing with the large number of would-be sightseers.

The vestibule of the new theatre is a fine one, and just before 8 o'clock it was full of notable persons, who seemed in no hurry to get to their seats. On going down to the stalls I found them already largely occupied. There were, however, a few late-comers, the best known of whom, such as Mr. Chamberlain and Sir Arthur Sullivan, were heartily cheered by the pit when they appeared. The royal party, of course, had an ovation. In a box near the roof was to be espied Mr. Tree's half-brother, Mr. Max Beerbohm, but most of the celebrities were in either the stalls or the dress club.

The Pictorial Society had a large gathering on Monday last at the Holborn Restaurant, under the presidency of Mr. R. C. Blundell. The meeting was specially called to discuss amalgamation, but Mr. E. E. Booker, putting out an information (the committee not having been consulted), the chairman ruled the proceedings out of order, and more congenial topics were immediately dealt with. It is felt to be time this incessant agitation came to an end, and it is satisfactory, so far, to find that it has not been allowed to bring discord into the Pictorial ranks.

The Central Association delegate meeting takes place on Monday, May 3, at their headquarters, the Bedford Head, Covent Garden. The chair will be taken at 9 p.m. sharp. Several societies will probably be enrolled, and business of great importance is likely to be brought forward.

The Silver Trout held their 32nd annual dinner at the Holborn Restaurant on Tuesday last. "Old Izak," presiding, supported by Mr. D. Williams, L.C.C., Dr. A. C. Tucker, A. Abrahams, W. H. Elsmore, J. Fletcher, and other well-known anglers. There was a long prize-list, and some good songs by Mr. Cox and others, as well as lightning sketches by Mr. Haines. Mr. Bradshaw (secretary) remarked that although a large quantity of fish had been taken during the year, no club prize was given for gross weight. Among the chief

"Romeo and Juliet," a dialogue is to be spoken by Miss Jessie Loftus and Mr. Charles Hawtrey, the announcement of which is very appetising. At the same entertainment Miss Emery and Mr. Maude will be seen and heard in Miss Burney's "Idyll of the Cloising Century."

The revival of "The Yeoman of the Guard" next Wednesday will arouse some pleasant memories. In my opinion, Miss Ulmar, Miss Bond, Mr. Grossmith, and Mr. Denny were never better than in this very attractive work. Mr. Grossmith therein reached his sonship as an actor. It was in this piece, I believe, that Mr. Denny first appeared at the Savoy. How good he and Miss Bond were in the scenes they had together! Those to whom the opera may be new should bear in mind that it is not "comic" but "romantic." There is nothing in it of the topsy-turvyness usually associated with Mr. Gilbert's name.

Fancy "Virginia" again at a West-end playhouse! It was last seen, I fancy, in that part of the town—at the Olympic, where, I likewise fancy, the title part was played by Mr. Edmund Tector. I remember Charles Dillon in it, and also Creswick; I may have seen others in the part, but, if so, I have forgotten them. I am glad to say, Wilson Barrett has "edited" the piece somewhat. Sheridan Knowles is not Shakespeare, and is, indeed, always the better for being "cut."

There will be more "clashing" on the evening of May 15 if "Secret Service" is produced then at the Adelphi, and if Mr. John Hare re-appears then at the Court. But the little difficulty will probably be got over. "Secret Service," you will recollect, is an American piece in which American actors will figure. No doubt Mr. Hare will gracefully give the strangers preference.

OLD IZAK.

The weather has been against the trout anglers everywhere during the last few days, and in the Thames very few fish have been taken. A number of trout have been noted in various parts of the T.A.P.S. district, such as Hampton, Shepperton, and Staines, and when the clerk of the weather once puts matters right some good fish are almost certain to be had.

TROUT fishing has opened on the Lea, and eel fishing is also permitted now in that river. It goes without saying that some of the strictly freshwater waters on the upper portion of the river are certain to yield sport, and the patient angler, who tries his hand in suitable spots between Broxbourne and Hertford, certainly stands a fair chance, although Lea trout of late years have been few and far between.

The committee of the Thames Angling Preservation Society met on Tuesday last, Mr. Alderman A. Nuttall (president) in the chair. Mr. H. W. Higgins (hon. secretary) read the correspondence, including letters in reference to the swans, which do not appear to have yet been kept off the river, as promised. Mr. A. E. Armstrong, of Chertsey, removing from the locality, retires from the office of hon. river-keeper in that district, and a very hearty vote of thanks for past services was accorded him. Mr. F. Goodwin, of the Chertsey Angling Association, will probably be his successor.

The United Brothers, meeting at the Drury Head, Broadway, Deptford, announced their prize distribution for May 11; and the Blackfriars Anglers, meeting at the Winchester Arms, Chertsey, S.E., have a similar function on May 17, and in both instances "Old Izak" will preside.

The Anglers' Association held their annual meeting at the Foresters' Hall on Monday last, Mr. P. Geen (president) in the chair. A satisfactory statement of accounts was presented and adopted, after some discussion, and an almost unanimous vote passed by the 76 clubs represented, in favour of amalgamating with the Central Association, which, however, the latter will not accept. Technicalities were referred to Mr. A. W. Parker, from the post of hon. reporter, among general regret. It was found impossible to conclude the business of the meeting from want of time, and the remaining items on the agenda (including the annual grant to the T.A.P.S.) will be dealt with on May 17, to which date the meetings stand adjourned.

The annual meeting of the St. Ives and District Angling Society, which came off last week at the Priory Rooms, St. Ives, under the genial chairmanship of Dr. E. Semple, was a most successful function, and everyone present thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Among the company were the Mayor of St. Ives, Dr. J. B. Griffiths, Mr. T. Knights, J.P., the Rev. H. G. Frewer, Mr. E. Collinson (hon. secretary), and several prominent London anglers. They were all present and, as lively as can be, and can be seen enjoying themselves in a large cage in my friend's shop window.

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prize-winners were Messrs. A. Abrahams, J. Fletcher, and F. J. Williams, the former winning two silver cups, including the challenge cup given by Mr. Walter Emden, J.P., L.C.C., last year. The dinner was a great success, and the society is in a very flourishing condition.

The Cosy Anglers had a grand night at the Plough, Rochester, Westminster, on Monday last, 31 clubs being represented at their visit, 29 of which were against amalgamation when the vote was taken. The concert

men, and, strange to say, they both ask the same question, not in just the same words, but it amounts to this, "What can a school attendance officer do to a child that he finds in the street during school hours?"

That is a very easy one to answer. He can do nothing. He has no legal right to in any way interfere with a child. That is to say, he must not touch it. If he does—and I know they often do—it is legally just as much an offence as if I or anyone else laid hold of it. All the school attendance officer can do is to ask the child for its name and address, and if the child refuses to give it the officer is powerless.

The Grange Anglers had a splendid gathering at the Earl of Derby's residence, Bermondsey, on Tuesday evening, when a capital concert and lantern entertainment, with views of the Thames, was provided, and 30s. collected for the T.A.P.S., just now a very welcome contribution to their funds. Mr. J. Gibbons presided, Messrs. Lee and Stokes assisting in the lecture arrangements, which left nothing to be desired.

The perch have spawned in the Thames, and at Walton, Sale, and elsewhere the quantity is far beyond that of former years, and augurs well for future sport. The roach will soon be coming on to the water, the bream, too, will soon be spawning, and the breams will be in full spate.

And when the policeman came the young monkey had the cheek to charge the School Board man with an assault, and demanded that the policeman should take him. Of course the bobby started the lad off, but he told him afterwards that all the law was on his side, and that the only person who can legally lay hold of or arrest an absent pupil from school is a policeman, and even he must be armed with a magistrate's order to take that particular child to a truant school, and that's how it ought to be.

One thing in particular I should like to warn all working-men against. That is, taking sides either one way or the other in this trouble between Greece and Turkey. Of course, I don't want to stop you expressing your opinion, but don't agitate or demonstrate, or attempt in any way to bring pressure to bear upon the Government. You can depend upon it that the know far more about it than you or I can tell them, and if you only let them know all they will do the right thing at the right time.

There has been a great deal of talk lately about old age pensions, and dozens of schemes have been discussed, but, in my opinion, the one that Sir H. Vincent put before the House of Commons last Tuesday night is by far the best. It was to put such a duty or toll upon foreign manufactured articles coming into this country as would provide a pension of £1 million pounds, which would provide a pension of £1 for 500,000 persons of 65 years of age and upwards.

I don't see any harm in this, but a lot of good. Mr. Balfour, however, opposed it, although he admitted that we imported £200,000,000 more than we exported, a great amount of which came here as interest on money that our capitalists had invested abroad. But I have always said if a man invests his money abroad it is because he gets more interest than he could get at home, and can afford to pay a little toll on it when it comes here in the shape of manufactured articles.

MR. WHEELER.

I am somewhat surprised that relay races against time have not received more attention in this country. In France the keenest interest was shown by the Government authorities in the recent series of relay rides organised by the "Journal des Sports." The primary object in view was to ascertain the time it would take for messages to reach given points, both on the sea-board and on the frontier of France. With the assistance of the numerous local cycling clubs and institutions on the various lines of route, the messages were safely delivered at their respective destinations. As the letters were to be carried by messengers on horseback, it was necessary to have a sufficient number of horsemen to compass the destruction of that a sufficient number of horsemen could not be found to carry out such a ride in time of war, as in continental armies the military authorities have a pleasant little way of annexing all horsefairs for cavalry and artillery mounted.

Reading the case of the lad who suddenly lost his memory the other day on a railway train, a tradesman, who was a large credit trade at the West-end ejecuted, "Well, there is nothing in that; quite half of my customers are similarly afflicted." The road to Calais measures 182 miles, and the message was delivered 1½ hours after starting. To the German frontier, which, of course, is the most important point, the riders covered 226 miles in 17 hours. The great lesson to be learnt from the experiment is that, in these days of universal cycling, a message could be carried by ordinary riders, not trained racing men, should the railways be destroyed and the telegraph wires cut. It may be taken for granted that a sufficient number of horsemen could not be found to carry out such a ride in time of war, as in continental armies the military authorities have a pleasant little way of annexing all horsefairs for cavalry and artillery mounted.

I recommend some of our smart Volunteer sections to take up the thread where that energetic fellow, the Cafford C.C., left it some years back. A relay ride from the Horse Guards to

JACK ALLROUND.

COWSLIP WINE.—Into 6 gallons of water put 1 lb. of lump sugar. Stir till the sugar is melted, then add the whites of 2 eggs, and boil, removing carefully all scum as it rises. From the time the liquor boils watch till it clears itself, this generally taking half an hour, then remove it from the fire, and when nearly cold add 24 quarts of cowslip. The best wine is made of the cowslip petals only, which are pulled out of the little green calyx surrounding them; if the calyx is left on it hardens, and spoils the flavour. The petals should be measured when fresh gathered. When adding the cowslips to the liquor also add rinds of 12 lemons and the juice of 6 lemons, and 1 or 2 tablespoonsfuls of good fresh brewer's yeast on a toast. Let it ferment for 3 days, stirring twice or thrice each day. After this remove the rinds of the lemons, put the wine into a cask, add 1 pint of brandy (some makers think it requires 2 pints of brandy for the above amount). Bung the cask tight, and let it remain for 3 or 4 months, when it may be bottled for use.

BOMB EXPLOSION.**EXTRAORDINARY OCCURRENCE AT ALDERSGATE-ST. STATION.****ONE KILLED; SEVERAL INJURED.**

A most mysterious affair occurred this week at Aldersgate-st. Station. Just as a 5 p.m. circle train, going east, was drawing up, there was a terrific explosion, accompanied by vivid flash. The air seemed full of broken glass, and on all sides porters and passengers ran and shrieked or fell. In the middle of the train there had been a first-class coach having 6 compartments. One remained at one end and two remained at the other, but save for little projections of roof and the ironwork base (with all its details contorted), nothing remained of the other 3. The materials of which they had been composed were scattered about. Some lay on the platform, most lay on the permanent way, and one piece had gone straight up and lodged in the iron girders of the lofty roof. The panic-stricken passengers pouring out of the train created a scene of infinite confusion. There was sufficient groaning from prostrate men, and there was sufficient

BLOOD UPON THEIR CLOTHES to justify the fear that many lives were lost. Yet, singularly enough, but one was given so forcible an explosion at such a place and at such a time, it is astonishing that the consequences were not more sad. The train was not quite at rest, and therefore its occupants had not alighted. Half a minute later, and the cement you have spread on the sole of the boot you will keep up the heat, for the cement must be quite hot, so must the rubber, which is then applied and pressed upon the sole, and if all is carried out properly will adhere firmly. When soled, place the boot in a cool place, and as soon as the work has hardened trim it up with a sharp knife, cutting off any superfluous edge, such as generally shows on the rubber, and when trimmed finish off, smoothing the edges by carefully passing a hot iron over them.

GLOAS FOR HAM.—SPICED BEEF, TONGUE, &c.—The simplest soak is to put 1 oz. of gelatine to soak in 4 pint of cold water for 2 hours, then add a cupful of strong gravy from roast beef, or, if you do not happen to have that, a spoonful of Liege's extract dissolved in a little water will answer. Add a pinch of salt. Put all together in a saucepan and boil, stirring it all the time till it is as thick as cream. It is then ready for use. Brush it over the meat with a perfectly clean ordinary house-painter's brush. What you do not use may be kept in a crock closely covered from air, and when needed you have only to put the crock into a saucepan of hot water until it melts, then brush it over the meat. For a dark-coloured glaze use sugar-browning, which see in next note.

SUGAR BROWNING FOR GLAVIES, MEAT, JELLIES, &c.—This should be prepared in an old iron pan. Make it quite hot, and rub it over with dripping—not too much—then add 1 lb. of brown sugar, set the pan on the fire, and stir the sugar with an iron spoon; as it melts it will turn into a dark brown liquid. When it has reached this stage take it from the fire, and let it stand to cool for a quarter of an hour, then pour over it 4 pint of boiling water. Replace it upon the fire, and stir with care till it is quite smooth. As soon as the browning is quite cold, put it in a bottle and cork closely.

FOUL PLAY SUSPECTED.—The play was taken out to Moorgate-st., and run into a siding, where the damaged coach was presently examined by officials of the company. A gang of men quickly cleared the permanent way at Aldersgate-st., collecting the fragments of wood, iron, and upholstery, and piling them upon the platform. Thus in half an hour's time the line was clear, and traffic was resumed. The cause of the explosion remains a mystery. The officials have come to the conclusion that an explosive with a fuse had been left in one of the carriages. "We suspect foul play," said an officer of the company, "and the police have the matter in hand."

EXAMINING THE DEBRIS.

Dr. Dupré and Capt. Thomson were engaged on Thursday in making a minute examination of the débris of the carriage wrecked by the explosion. They were assisted by a number of workmen, and every scrap of material was subjected to the most rigorous scrutiny, a powerful magnet being used to gather up the smallest fragments of steel or iron. Mr. Ayres, the employer of the late Mr. Pitts, who was killed by the explosion, announces that a fund has been opened for the victim's widow and children.

INQUEST OPENED.—The coroner's inquest on Henry Pitts, who died from the explosion, was opened at St. Bartholomew's Hospital by the deputy coroner, Mr. Langham.—The coroner stated that under the Explosives Act he could not go on with the inquiry unless an official of the Home office were present to watch the proceedings. Col. Majestic, the inspector, had written to explain that he could not attend, in consequence of his presence at the Parliamentary Committee on Petroleum, and he was the adjoint, Maj. Ouslow, but the chief instructor of the non-commissioned staff, Regt. Serjt. Maj. Holman, a smart, intelligent, and "uncommon pleasant officer, and his gigantic courage," Regt. Major-General, left the party, and gave me some interesting particulars in answer to my inquiries.

I don't propose to burden this column today with more than one of these particulars, but I will say that some of the sections of the N.S.W.M.R. will probably take part in the competition, which our Australian comrades had been invited to. It is a pity that we have not been successful in securing the commandant, who, with Lady Vincent, was so hospitably received at the antipodes on their visit a few years ago.

REPLACING A BROKEN PORTION OF LEAD PIPE.—You must procure lead piping the same size round as the piping you have got to repair. The ends of the broken pipe to be joined are to be sawn off square, then the open end of the lower section of the pipe to be repaired is to be enlarged by inserting a boxwood turnip and driving it down by light blows so that it will stretch or expand the end large enough to admit the lower end of the new length of pipe, which should be rasped thinner all round to help in the operation of fitting it inside the other. The top end of the new length and the open end of the upper section are manipulated in the same way. The surfaces to be joined are scraped quite bright either by a shave hook or a pocket knife, and then fitted together. In this way you have at each joint a circular cavity made by the expanded lead—the one below expanded on the old pipe, and the cavity above expanded on the new piece of pipe.

VOLUNTEER GOSSIP.

I have just received the ninth annual report and balance sheet of the Metropolitan Volunteer Sappers' Association, which shows that body to be in a very flourishing financial condition. The balance carried forward being £10 in excess of previous years being £10 in excess of previous years. The attendance during the past season has been excellent, and the sappers' meetings, unfortunately, bad weather prevailed each evening a lecture was delivered. The general meeting will be held at the headquarters of the Queen's Westminster Rifles on July 10, the programme for this season including map-reading, reconnaissance practice, night marching, compass bearing, and military conduct.

Now that the members of the North London Rifles are being sent to India, the Royal Rifles ride only one week is necessary to produce splendid results. At Aldford, on Wednesday, a record was established. Col. G. Barker, Customs Rifles, made 104 out of a possible 105, at Queen's ranges, any possible error being 4% in excess of previous years. The attendance during the past season has been excellent, and the sappers' meetings, unfortunately, bad weather prevailed each evening a lecture was delivered. The general meeting will be held at the headquarters of the Queen's Westminster Rifles on July 10, the programme for this season including map-reading, reconnaissance practice, night marching, compass bearing, and military conduct.

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Pta. Turner had by accident pushed his opponent over the boundary line of the rectangle in which he was fighting in a sabre v.

sabre—knowing that he was fighting in a sabre v.

Col. G. Barker, Customs Rifles, asked the colonel to withdraw his decision. When he did later he scored it inconceivably, a grand cheer arose in the Queen's Hall to testify to the admiration of all his comrades for his sportsmanlike conduct.

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THE WAR.
THRILLING DETAILS FROM THE FRONT.
THE GREEK ROUT.
GRAPHIC STORY OF A WAR CORRESPONDENT.

HUNDREDS KILLED.

The terrible battle of last week ended in the Greek rout at Turnava and Larissa, and the subsequent stampede to Pharsala seems to have ended hostilities for the moment. The latest telegrams from the front will be found elsewhere, but meantime we give a graphic story of the Greek stampede after the fatal fight at Mati, from which two facts may well be learned—first, that the Greeks were in mortal terror, and, secondly, that, even in the heat of victory, the Turkish soldiers behaved with the utmost coolness, correctness, and circum-

A GRAPHIC STORY.

By the course of events the enterprising Special Correspondent of Keuter's Agency has been compelled to return to Athens, and from that centre he resumes the narrative of his observations and experiences at the front. This is his story:—Expecting that the battle would be resumed at dawn on Saturday morning, I returned to Turnava, where I took up my quarters in a deserted house in a secluded part of the town, together with Lieut. Western, of the Swedish Staff. About 11 o'clock, before turning in for the night, I went out to take a last look round. To my surprise I came across an ammunition train retiring from the front. I was further astonished to learn on inquiry that the few inhabitants of Turnava who had not previously fled had hours before received orders to leave immediately; that the Turks were coming up in force from Grizzavali through the Mount Elias Pass; and that the whole Greek army was in full retreat, the last regiments of the left wing having already gone through, while the centre and the right wings were marching on Larissa by the Kazadar Road, on which the headquarters of the Greek army, with the Crown Prince and General Macris, had been stationed. My wagon had gone to Larissa, carrying despatches, so Lieut. Western and I resolved to walk. Clearing Turnava by midnight, we overtook the carriage of the correspondent of the "Illustrated London News," in which I was offered a place.

BULLER GIVES PLACE TO CLAMOUR.

At the junction of the Turnava and Kazadar roads the straggling lines of both divisions of the retiring army were heaped upon the road and upon the ploughed land on either side. Sullenness had now given place to clamour, and the disappointed and dispirited men forgot their weariness in imprecations against their generals and officers. The retreat had become a rout. Our carriage was picking its way slowly through the crowd of desperate men, crying women, and children, horses and donkeys overburdened and creeping at a snail's pace, or prancing in nervous flight, and I had just remarked to the "Times" correspondent, who had joined our carriage, having lost his horse and baggage, that the Greeks at the mouth of the Bousias Pass seemed to be signalling to Larissa with the night heliograph, when, suddenly, above the din of the confused masses in the road and adjoining fields, there came a roar, sharpening into a fierce sustained yell, rolling with lightning speed from the distant rear. There was no rear guard, and so far as I had observed, no screen of cavalry covered the retreat.

"THE TURKS ARE HERE!"

In a few moments, above all the noise and shouting, could be distinguished cries of "The Turks are upon us." One had hardly time to realise what was happening when a dozen or more horsemen, accompanied by a few riderless steeds, appeared on the left at full gallop, shouting, in a perfect frenzy, "Run, run; the Turks are here." Up into the night air then arose an agonised roar, fairly paralysing the imagination, and destined to remain in the memory for ever. The stampede was instantaneous. The animals were lashed by the men. Women, children, and soldiers pell-mell made one mad rush forward. Many fell, and were trampled to death. Vehicles of every description were overturned, mixing together in inextricable confusion, bedding, furniture, ammunition, horses, donkeys, oxen, and buffaloes in the depths of the black mass.

THE CARRIAGE OVERTURNED.

On the left other horsemen presently appeared urging on their mad career. One story now circulated is that they were really Circassian Cavalry, who had debouched from the Bogazi Pass, and had actually intermingled with a straggling Greek mounted troop. Personally, I am inclined to disbelieve this, and to conclude that the stampede was simply caused by fear and wild imaginings. At the side of our carriage 2 infantry soldiers appeared, their faces blanched with terror. They jumped on the step. When we tried to keep them out, one levelled his rifle. Then, suddenly their weight overbalanced the vehicle, which overturned, and was smashed to pieces, all the occupants, including the "Times" correspondent and myself, being thrown out. My leg was pinned down by the broken timbers, but I somehow managed to release it and join the "Times" correspondent. All the others had disappeared in the darkness.

A PERFECT PANDEMONIUM.

Then began a perfect pandemonium. In their insane terror, soldiers, irregulars, and armed peasants commenced to fire their rifles in all directions. From front and rear, right and left, bullets whizzed, the reports being scarcely heard above the roar of human voices and the screaming of the terror-stricken animals. I had been through the battle of the Shapska Pass, and in the hottest part of the fighting at Plevna, but never before had I witnessed such wild firing as now took place. The whole place was lit by the constant flashes. Keeping together the "Times" correspondent and myself got into the outside ditch, but we had only walked a short distance when we were thrown down by a rush from behind. A few days after the fall of Plevna the Russian Emperor arrived, and Osman Pasha, who was unable to walk, was carried through the lines. He then passed into the presence of the Emperor, who shook hands with him, and informed him that in consideration of his gallant defence he had given orders that his sword should be returned to him, and that he could wear it. He is 5 ft. 8 in. in height and

rather strongly built; his hair is black with a full beard and moustache of the same colour; his features are regular, the eyes clear, and he has a calm, self-confident expression of countenance. Osman, after his return from Russia, was made Minister of War, and was entrusted with the organisation of the army.

THE TURKISH LEADER.

It had been determined only a week ago to send Osman Pasha to general command of all the Turkish operations, but the victory at Mati was terrible in the extreme. It was piled-up agony—Ossia upon Pelion, with a vengeance. In this maddened crowd I struggled on for several miles. Some of the Greek officers, I know, did their duty. They ordered the trumpeters to sound "Cease firing," but it seemed a long time before the continuous rattle of musketry showed any sign of slackening. Gradually, however, it died away to single shots. The pandemonium I have attempted to describe had spread over many miles. When I returned to the road, stumbling over dead and dying animals, men and women, the scene was terrible in the extreme. It was a pile-up agony—Ossia upon Pelion, with a vengeance. In this maddened crowd I struggled on for several miles. Some of the Greek officers, I know, did their duty. 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TALK OF THE PEOPLE.

This week Unionist ratepayers in London will be presented with another opportunity of helping their party by voting for its candidates at the vestry elections. There are still too many, who through apathy or indifference, hold back from taking part in municipal contests. By doing that they play right into the hands of the Radicals, who never miss these chances of manufacturing political capital for themselves. Unionists only have to copy from the enemy, in that respect to secure control of a large majority of the vestries. Nor does voting involve any serious trouble; even the busiest of business men can perform the duty without subjecting themselves to any inconvenience worth speaking of. I trust, therefore, that one and all will prove the sincerity of their convictions by going to the poll at as early an hour as they can manage.

Of course, we all love the Princess, but her gracious proposal that even the "poorest of the poor" should have some share in the gladness of the Diamond Day will endear her more than ever to the hearts of the people. He must be an economist, indeed, who would refuse to assist her efforts to secure for all—the wretched, the starving, and the outcast—at least one good meal on that great day. I dare say that a great many very undeserving rascals will come in for it. Need we mind very much even if they do? We are none of us perfect, and the people who are to be fed under her scheme will at least be very hungry. For once in a way, we can surely venture to be a little imprudent in our charity, and not inquire too closely into the private affairs of the guests at the grand banquet.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has done good service to the nation by pointing out in his Budget speech how extraordinarily small is the actual cost of maintaining the British monarchy.

Nobody in this country whose opinion is worth two straws would care for the monarchy to be run "on the cheap," but, all the same, it is not disagreeable to find that its cost has sunk from £52,000 in the reign of the last King to £15,000 now. With the possible exception of the money spent upon the Navy, there is no item in the national expenditure in which we less could afford to retrench. We are a business people, and we like good value for our money, though we don't always get it; but no one can say that any other nation on earth possesses such a monarchy at such a cost.

I suppose Sir Michael Hicks-Beech could not see his way to giving us a little reduction in the Income-tax, but I must say that a good many people are disappointed that he has not done so. An 8d. Income-tax is too much for maintaining the British monarchy. It is really a war expenditure, and it is only made necessary owing to the policy of redeeming the National Debt. Now, I have not a word to say against that policy in itself. It is sound finance for the individual, just as it is sound finance for the Colonies, and to pay off the debts of the Colonies has sent in a requisition to the Government for at least 1,000 seats for them on the Diamond Jubilee Day.

The Queen has sent a message to the residents of Boston, U.S.A., who are of British birth, saying that H.M. was specially touched by the fact that they intended to join in the Jubilee celebration. The message added that the Queen had ordered a portrait of herself to be prepared and sent with an autograph letter before the day.—DAZIEL.

At Bedford, Mr. J. Brown, chairman of the Executive Committee of the C.C., under the Contagious Diseases (Amendment) Act was fined £1 for unlawfully removing a pig from a swine fever-infected zone into another district.

At Rochester yesterday, on behalf of the subscribers, Sir Wm. W. Hayward, the mayor, presented a testimonial to Mr. J. Hopkins, in celebration of the 40th anniversary of his occupancy of the office of cathedral organist.

The gift consisted of an illuminated address and a purse of gold.

At Dartford yesterday, Wm. Mills was fined 10s. and costs for working a horse in an unstatute state, and Robert Wilson, contractor, 4s. and costs as the owner, for causing the animal to be so worked. At the same court Charles Stevenson, butcher's boy, of Horton, Kirby, was fined 2s. and costs for a similar offence.

LATEST ELECTRIC FLASHES.

HOME.

Alderman B. Morton, Mayor of Hythe, died, after a day's illness. Bridget Coster died at Wigton of scalds from a pan of boiling potatoes. Nearly 700 masons and labourers struck work at Huddersfield, the latter claiming an advance in wages.

The Warwick Guardians resolved to grant all adults in receipt of out-door relief an additional 2s. 6d. during Jubilee week.

About 150 bricklayers in Northwich district came out on strike to-morrow for an advance of 1d. per hour. They now receive 8d.

A new station was opened at Farncombe, on the S.W. Railway, yesterday, and will be used for passenger traffic instead of Godalming (Old) Station.

A majority of the shipwrights employed in the Southampton yacht yards have struck work owing to a disagreement with the joinery department respecting certain work.

A verdict of found drowned was returned at an inquest at Sydenham, Oxfordshire, on Daisy Sarah Jones, 13, daughter of a labourer, who was found in a well adjoining her home.

Three bicyclists were riding to Scarborough when the machine ridden by Arthur Gardner suddenly broke, and he fell with great force. He was picked up unconscious.

The bricklayers in Stockton and Thornaby and their labourers have come out on strike for an advance of 1d. an hour, which the masters decline to concede.

The Sheffield working men held a demonstration under the auspices of the Federated Trades Council. A collection was made for the Farnsby quarries.

Charles W. Denton, shoemaker, and a member of the Salvation Army at Coventry, was committed for trial at that place for assaulting a little girl named Hutt, aged 9.—Bail allowed.

At Brighton yesterday, Louis Harvey, 19, who had been staying at Church-st., and took a silk handkerchief away with him, was sentenced to 21 days' hard labour.

Whilst drawing water at Ifield, near Rochester, yesterday James Foad, 13, son of a gamekeeper on Gen. Edmeade's estate, fell down a well over 100ft. deep. He was quite dead when brought to the surface.

In consequence of frequent illness among the clerical staff at Chatham Dockyard, the Admiralty have ordered a medical survey of the offices, which is to be a little imprudent in our charity, and not inquire too closely into the private affairs of the guests at the private banqueting.

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FOREIGN.

The Emperor Francis Joseph and the Archduke Otto returned to Vienna from St. Petersburg yesterday afternoon.—REUTER.

Intelligence has been received of a dynamite explosion at San Salvador, by which 2 blocks of buildings were destroyed, and a number of people killed.—REUTER.

NORWICH'S EX-CHIEF-COMMISSIONER.

Mr. Robert Hitchman, who has retired on pension from the Chief-Commissioner of Norwich, commenced his police career by joining, at an early age, the Metropolitan Police, in 1847.

Four years later he was appointed as Chief Officer of Police in Norfolk, and 3 years later, out of 120 candidates, was elected as Chief Constable of Devonport, a position he was appointed to in 1852.

Chief Constable of Norwich on March 24, 1859. W. H. M. R.

M. ROBERT HITCHMAN. Hitchman was appointed to the chief Constabulary of Norwich, the population of the city was 65,700, and the numerical strength of the police force was 85. The population of the city increased to 100,070, and the strength of the police force to 115. Mr. Hitchman has also filled the position of Chief Officer of the Fire Brigade, and has in that capacity attended upwards of 500 fires. During Mr. Hitchman's long term of office at Norwich he has been connected with a number of important cases. One was the Joe Fox case of 1859, in which the notorious Joe Fox was condemned to death, and the Turkish soldiers, and even the German officers—pretty tight hands, let me tell you—confess that the control over the troops is better and stricter than even that over their own men during the Franco-German War.

It seems that trouble with China is to be added to the other little matters we have in hand just now. Chang won't be fumigated, and he says that a hundred millions of Chinamen will know the reason why he is. Now Chang is Ambassador to London, and a person not to be rashly fumigated against his will. On the other hand, Chang has arrived at Vancouver in a ship with small-pox on board, and, though the Vancouverians don't mind Chinese, they object to Celestial microbes even when brought in a yellow jacket. It is really quite a serious situation, and even Lord Salisbury has been appealed to. Couldn't something be done with carbolic acid and a garden hose?—REUTER.

WIDE AWAKE.

With reference to the alleged Turkish reverse at Velestino, Edhem Pasha telegraphs:—"After a serious examination, and even Lord Salisbury has been appealed to. Couldn't something be done with carbolic acid and a garden hose?"—REUTER.

THE JUBILEE.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR OUR COLONIAL GUESTS.

The Colony of Victoria (Australia) has accepted Mr. Chamberlain's invitation that troops should be sent to take part in the Jubilee procession.

Details of the forces sent by Victoria show that 3 officers and 25 non-commissioned officers and men of the Mounted Rifles, without horses, and 14 representatives of known shooting Voluntary companies, left on April 24 in the Oriah, and will be due in London the first week in June. A rifle team which is being sent over to compete for the Kolapore Cup at Bisley will also be given places in the Jubilee procession.

The numbers of the other

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YESTERDAY'S LAW AND POLICE.

Divorce Court.

(Before Justice Barnes and a Special Jury.)

WILKINSON v. WILKINSON AND MURRAY.—Husband's petition. Ground, wife's alleged misconduct. Mr. Tom Howard Wilkinson was secretary and one of the directors of a firm of iron founders at Tipton, Staffordshire. There were violent damages. Answers were filed denying the charge, and respondents made a number of counter-claims, which, however, were not presented in Mr. Benthol's appeal for respondent, who, he said, had left the country. Before going she wrote a letter to her solicitor stating that she did not intend to take part in the proceedings. Co-respondent, for whom he also appeared, had only pleaded for mitigation of the damages, but that claim having been withdrawn, he did not propose to take any part in the case.—Mr. E. Deane, for petitioner, said the marriage took place on Sept. 22, 1881, at St. Augustine's Church, Edgbaston. Co-respondent had business relations with Mr. Wilkinson, and they became on friendly terms. There was one child of the marriage, and after its birth husband and wife did not get up well together. In February, 1886, they came to London, co-respondent accompanying them. After their return to Edgbaston he learned that respondent

WAS AWAY FROM HOME

on May 30 last, and that she had been to Bridgnorth with Mr. Murray. When spoken to on the subject she denied it. Later on he consulted his solicitor, who advised him to file a notice of婚變 (divorce). The court in January last, raised an interesting point under the Betting Act. Appellant was convicted by the Justices of Middlesex on a charge of having frequented a street called Stockton-st. for the purpose of betting. The Justices rejected certain evidence, and when the case came up for hearing the court held that the Justices were in error in excluding evidence, and sent it back to the Justices to be re-heard. The Justices, after hearing the evidence again, committed appellant. Counsel for appellant argued that there should be no costs of the appeal. The magistrates excluded the evidence, and it was through their mistake that appellant had been put to the expense of the appeal.—Mr. Fox, for respondent, said that as the appeal had failed his client was entitled to the costs.—Justice Wright said that as the appeal had failed appellant must pay the costs.—Justice Bruce concurred.

Admiralty Court.

CLAIM FOR SALVAGE SERVICES. Before Justice Barnes and Trinity Masters, the owners, masters, and crews of the Newcastle steam-fishing vessel Chancellor and the S. Shields, two Corairs, claimed compensation for services rendered to the Newcastle steamer Isle, which, in January last, went off the Tyne, in the course of a voyage from Aquila to the Tyne, with a cargo of lead and spar-glass, broke her tail-shaft and suffered other damage. The Chancellor went to her assistance and took her in tow, and when about to enter the Tyne the Chancellor came up with the Isle being safely docked in safety at the Tyne Dock. The value of the property salvaged was nearly £31,000.—The Chancellor's claim was settled for £100, and defendant tendered £150 as sufficient to satisfy the Corair's claim. The tender was, however, refused, and his lordship, after hearing the evidence, held that the service of the Corair was a valuable one and deserved a larger sum, and awarded the Corair £200.—Judgment accordingly.

Middlesex Quarter Sessions
(Before Mr. Little, Q.C.)

MARRIED MISERY. William Henry Cooper, of Bilett Estate, Steaines, appealed against the sentence of one month's imprisonment for assaulting his wife Jemima.—Mrs. Cooper said on March 18 her husband came home, and she was lying down. He was drunk and struck her twice in the eye and kicked her 4 times. This was not the first time that this had happened, but the fourth since Christmas. He called her a "one-eyed eon."—Cross-examined: She had been married 24 years, and it had been 24 years of misery. It was true that he struck her in the eye, and she lost the sight of it. In her opinion the blow was the cause of it, but she was not sure. Prior to this assault he had been drunk for quite a month.—Mr. Hulton, for appellant, said that his wife was a drunkard, and he never had a better man in his department. He also gave Paesley a good character.—All the prisoners pleaded guilty.—Mr. Lamb, from Messrs. Shoobland's, where Curi was employed, gave him an excellent character.—Mr. Hanney said it was painful to him, considering the excellent character Curi had borne, that he should have allowed himself to become the victim of temptation. He must go to gaol for 4 months, and each of the others for 2 months.—Remanded.

Stratford.

TOO MUCH HOLIDAY. May Whitehead, 22, servant, Devon-rd., Bow, was charged on remand with attempting to commit suicide. On April 21 P.C. 360 J was called to the Eagle Pond—a sheet of water bounding the grounds of the Infant Asylum at Wanstead and abutting on the footpath of a main road, and on arriving there saw prisoner at the other side of the pond, drenched. He took her into custody. She was very strange in her manner, and several times declared that she had been pushed into the water by some men. When before the court last week prisoner reiterated this story, and made an additional statement to the effect that she had been drinking heavily on Easter Monday, and was out all night on the Tuesday. On the Wednesday she and a friend with some men went out driving, and when passing the Eagle Pond one of the men—whether he did it for the purpose or not, she could not say—threw her clean into the water, and the other 2 tried to get her out.—Marcus Searle, 13, said he saw prisoner running along the path by the side of the pond. She went into the water up to her waist, and 2 men went after her, but she kept on saying, "I want to go into the water, leave me alone." She was put into a car, but jumped out, and ran for 100 yds. to a house, where she was taken to a hospital. He added that prisoner told him to say the men pushed her in the water, and promised to give him a shilling. She was all the time winking at him.—Prisoner: I was winking my eye to the other policeman. You tell falsehoods, my boy. You didn't see the beginning of it, or the end of it.—Thomas Henry Toplis, horse dealer, of Hope Villa, Montague-rd., Leyton, and Fredk. Boyce, hairdresser, related that they met prisoner and another young woman at a public-house at Bow. The girls forced their company on them, and having been treated they asked for a ride. They went about together till night, and passing the pond next morning accused prisoner of having set a trap, and ran into the water.—She was discharged.

Thames.

RETURNED USELESS. Thomas, 43, tailor's cutter, and an able-bodied man, was charged with neglecting to maintain himself.—Mr. Deakin, who prosecuted for the Mile End Guardians, said the present case was one of the worst of his kind that had been brought before the court. Thomas had been in and out of the workhouse during the last 2 or 3 years, and since October last had 18 admissions and discharges. The guardians had sent him to the Home Farm Colony at Kendal, but he had to be returned at once, as he was entirely useless. The report stated that on the first occasion he had been drunk, and when he got drunk, and was perfectly idle, and, in consequence, his master had to have him back again. On Friday he disappeared from the workhouse, and on his return at night stated he had succeeded in getting work at a factory in Bethnal Green, and was to commence work the following Monday.—Bound over to come up if called upon within 3 months.

NOT HER BETS.

George Alfred Coulter, of Lindley-st., Stepney, was charged with assaulting his wife Phoebe.—The latter stated on April 20 she fetched her husband out of a public-house to his dinner. On reaching home he struck and kicked her. When he had charged her he said, "I ought to have done this to you."—Honour: What was the principal?—Plaintiff: In February, 1886.—His Honour: And what was the rate of interest?—Plaintiff: 100% per cent. Why that is impossible that I can; it is almost fraudulent. Are you a money-lender?—Plaintiff: I am not.—Defendant: He was your honour, to the workmen in the firm in which we worked together. He was a scandal to the firm. I have a letter from him in which he said he had charged her less than he ought to have done. Honour: That is so.—Defendant: How much have you paid?—Defendant: £10. Honour: Do you still owe the debt now?—Plaintiff: No, he took previous arrangements to give me none.—Judgment for 23 at st. Tuesday.

Chancery Division.

THE FOLKESTONE PLEASURE GARDENS. An application was made to Justice Ridley to obtain his sanction to a reduction which had been made in the reduction of the capital of the Folkestone Pleasure Gardens Co. (Ltd.) from £80,000 to £95,250, the company having sustained, it was stated, an estimated loss of £25,521. Lord Radnor is the lessor of the property.—His lordship made the necessary order sanctioning the reduction.

NATIONAL SKATING PALACE.

Justice North had before him the short cause of Brown, Johnson, and Co. v. the National Skating Palace Ltd.—Counsel stated that plaintiff company are bankers, and he applied on their behalf for judgment in favour of 2 defences for £20,000 and £5,000, respectively, held by them in the National Skating Palace Co.—His lordship granted the usual order, declaring that the defendant-holders were entitled to a charge upon the company's property.

Queen's Bench Division.

A SHARE DISPUTE. Justice Ridley had before him the case of the Gold Estate of Australia (Ltd.) v. L'Australie (Ltd.), which was a claim by plaintiffs to recover the price of 779 shares in a gold mining company, called the Mexican Alpha Leases (Ltd.), which were sold by plaintiffs to defendants. It appears that plaintiffs agreed to give defendants what was known as a call of 5,000 shares in this company at a price agreed on the pound share. The agreement was dated June 4, and by its terms defendants were to sell the shares abroad, and not to interfere with English markets, and, therefore, they were allowed to have them at par. The agreement was subject to cancellation by a notice of 48 hours. That particular contract was cancelled, and a verbal contract was entered into between plaintiffs and defendants, giving the latter a call of 1,000 shares at par. Mr. Heckscher, managing director of the defendant company, took up the calls on various occasions, and transfers were effected for those shares. Not long afterwards defendants wrote repudiating 900 of the shares, and returned the transfers on the Paris office, and defendants were unable to get payment for them from their French buyers.—Plain-

tiffs' counsel said that this seemed to be the sole ground of the defence.—His lordship said there was nothing in the agreement entitling defendants to make such repudiation.—Mr. Heckscher was called, and said that the effect of the verbal agreement was that defendants were only to be liable on shares as were paid to defendants were paid. Defendants had settled with plaintiffs.—His lordship said that there was no bargain as the defendants sought to do in giving judgment for plaintiffs for £524.

BETTING APPEAL.

In a Divisional Court, before Justices Wright and Bruce, the case of Whitchurch v. Ashe came on. This case, which was before the court in January last, raised an interesting point under the Betting Act. Appellant was convicted by the Justices of Middlesex on a charge of having frequented a street called Stockton-st. for the purpose of betting. The Justices rejected certain evidence, and when the case came up for hearing the court held that the Justices were in error in excluding evidence, and sent it back to the Justices to be re-heard. The Justices, after hearing the evidence again, committed appellant. Counsel for appellant argued that there should be no costs of the appeal. The magistrates excluded the evidence, and it was through their mistake that appellant had been put to the expense of the appeal.—Mr. Fox, for respondent, said that as the appeal had failed his client was entitled to the costs.—Justice Wright said that as the appeal had failed appellant must pay the costs.—Justice Bruce concurred.

Marblestone.

A STRANGE WOMAN.

Geo. Glover, 36, plumber, New-st., St. John's Wood, was charged with having assaulted Francis, his wife. She said she was sitting at needle-work on Thursday evening, and her husband returned home. Without any provocation he got up from his chair and struck her with his fist. He said that if she did not get out of the house he would "lay her out." His wife came forward and said she had not known her husband was right in his mind. He had served in the Army and was married 15 years.—P.C. Butler, who arrested the man, said prisoner's version was that his wife napped at him, and he should not have done so. The officer said that he had made inquiries, and found that both the man and the woman were quiet, respectable people. He understood that a strange woman was at the bottom of all the trouble.—Bound over in £10, and a surcharge in £2, for 12 months.

Marlborough-street.

STORES ROBBERIES.

Arnold Carr, 30, salesman, Eastbourne-st. Park; Ernest Taylor, 24, porter, Klyber-rd.; Clapham Junction; and John Paisley, 29, porter, St. Margarets-rd., Annerley, were charged with stealing from their employers, the Junior Army and Navy Stores, Ltd., Regent-st., a quantity of door-mats, blinds, bunting, curtains, and other articles, value £10.—The property in question having been missed, information was given to the police, which resulted that prisoners were absconding. Mr. Lampard, manager of the furniture department, stated that Carr had borne an excellent character, and he "never had a better man in his department." He also gave Paesley a good character.—All the prisoners pleaded guilty.—Mr. Lamb, from Messrs. Shoobland's, where Curi was employed, gave him an excellent character.—Mr. Hanney said it was painful to him, considering the excellent character Curi had borne, that he should have allowed himself to become the victim of temptation. He must go to gaol for 4 months, and each of the others for 2 months.—Remanded.

Stratford.

TOO MUCH HOLIDAY. May Whitehead, 22, servant, St. Katharine-rd., Notting Hill, was charged with attempting to commit suicide. On April 21 P.C. 360 J was called to the Eagle Pond—a sheet of water bounding the grounds of the Infant Asylum at Wanstead and abutting on the footpath of a main road, and on arriving there saw prisoner at the other side of the pond, drenched. He took her into custody. She was very strange in her manner, and several times declared that she had been pushed into the water by some men. When before the court last week prisoner reiterated this story, and made an additional statement to the effect that she had been drinking heavily on Easter Monday, and was out all night on the Tuesday. On the Wednesday she and a friend with some men went out driving, and when passing the Eagle Pond one of the men—whether he did it for the purpose or not, she could not say—threw her clean into the water, and the other 2 tried to get her out.—Marcus Searle, 13, said he saw prisoner running along the path by the side of the pond. She went into the water up to her waist, and 2 men went after her, but she kept on saying, "I want to go into the water, leave me alone." She was put into a car, but jumped out, and ran for 100 yds. to a house, where she was taken to a hospital. He added that prisoner told him to say the men pushed her in the water, and promised to give him a shilling. She was all the time winking at him.—Prisoner: I was winking my eye to the other policeman. You tell falsehoods, my boy. You didn't see the beginning of it, or the end of it.—Thomas Henry Toplis, horse dealer, of Hope Villa, Montague-rd., Leyton, and Fredk. Boyce, hairdresser, related that they met prisoner and another young woman at a public-house at Bow. The girls forced their company on them, and having been treated they asked for a ride. They went about together till night, and passing the pond next morning accused prisoner of having set a trap, and ran into the water.—She was discharged.

West London.

TROWN DOWNSTAIRS.

Thomas Hughes, 33, dealer, St. Katharine-rd., Notting Hill, was charged with attempting to commit suicide. On April 21 P.C. 360 J was called to the Eagle Pond—a sheet of water bounding the grounds of the Infant Asylum at Wanstead and abutting on the footpath of a main road, and on arriving there saw prisoner at the other side of the pond, drenched. He took her into custody. She was very strange in her manner, and several times declared that she had been pushed into the water by some men. When before the court last week prisoner reiterated this story, and made an additional statement to the effect that she had been drinking heavily on Easter Monday, and was out all night on the Tuesday. On the Wednesday she and a friend with some men went out driving, and when passing the Eagle Pond one of the men—whether he did it for the purpose or not, she could not say—threw her clean into the water, and the other 2 tried to get her out.—Marcus Searle, 13, said he saw prisoner running along the path by the side of the pond. She went into the water up to her waist, and 2 men went after her, but she kept on saying, "I want to go into the water, leave me alone." She was put into a car, but jumped out, and ran for 100 yds. to a house, where she was taken to a hospital. He added that prisoner told him to say the men pushed her in the water, and promised to give him a shilling. She was all the time winking at him.—Prisoner: I was winking my eye to the other policeman. You tell falsehoods, my boy. You didn't see the beginning of it, or the end of it.—Thomas Henry Toplis, horse dealer, of Hope Villa, Montague-rd., Leyton, and Fredk. Boyce, hairdresser, related that they met prisoner and another young woman at a public-house at Bow. The girls forced their company on them, and having been treated they asked for a ride. They went about together till night, and passing the pond next morning accused prisoner of having set a trap, and ran into the water.—She was discharged.

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Clerkenwell County Court.

5 PER CENT. His Honour Judge Meadows, Albert, Ed. G. Goldwin, compositor, Holborn, sued James Boone, printer, Mercer-rd., Shadwell, to recover £5, 11d. and £100 damages, for having been compelled to pay £100 to his wife, Mrs. J. W. Ellis, who came on the busby and was an auctioneer and surveyor, and was in the City of London, and in the result the paper mills were turned into a company, Sir J. W. Ellis being chairman of the board. As to the charge of undue influence, it was alleged against Miss Margaret King Ross. She was Jane McMurry, who was daughter of testator's half brother. (Laughter.) He (Mr. Inderwick) said that he did not claim any relationship. (Renewed laughter.) Miss Ross was the daughter of a Presbyterian minister (to whom denomination deceased belonged), the Rev. Allen Ross, of Rattray, Blairgowrie, and she came to stay with testator, who occupied the same position towards him as his daughter. She managed his household, and there was not a shadow of doubt that he was attached to her, speaking about her in the most affectionate terms. She had nothing to do with the making of the will, which left her the residue.—Adjudged for 23 at st. Tuesday.

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it was shown that a quarrel took place between the parties in consequence of prosecutrix learning that her husband had been married before, and that it was not known whether his first wife was alive. Prisoner, who it was said had treated his wife badly, then threatened to kill her. Subsequently he disappeared, and had remained away for weeks.—Det.-sergt. Richardson said he had made inquiries, and found that prisoner was married in Derbyshire in 1877, but he had been unable to trace the woman.—Prisoner: I am willing to consent to a maintenance order. When I leave this court I am to be arrested and conveyed to Holloway prison for non-payment of rates. I have already spent 2 months there for the same thing. My wife will keep up the house, and I have not got the rent for the rates.—Prosecutor: I am to go to prison for the rates.—Prisoner: I am not. I have written to the magistrate, and he has given me a receipt for £100, which I have given to my wife.—Prisoner: I am not. I have given my wife £100, which I have given to my wife.—Prisoner: I am not. I have given my wife £100, which I

NOTICE.

To avoid loss of time and inconvenience, all communications on business matters must be addressed to the MANAGER, and not to the EDITOR.

PERSONAL.

FOUND—CARRIER PIGION, number 88; it was cleaned in 12 days it will be sold—Apply, T. H. Haining, Albany Hotel, Verwood, Salisbury.

ADOPTION.

WOULD like to hear from you again—J. D.

PRIVATE INQUIRY AGENT—Information Bureau, 21 May St., 1st fl., Mrs. E. Johnson.

HENRY WELLER, FORMERLY of Alberts-Terrace, Clapham, afterwards of East Finchley, please communicate with A. DONALDSON, Solicitor, 6, Bedford-row, W.C.

LAW, WILLIAM NIVEN, WSO left London for Australia in or about 1871, and was heard of from Sydney in 1872. If you are in touch with him, please let me have his address. Address, Mr. Frederick Mattson, Esq., Solicitor, 16, Strand, London, England.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE, PROBATE DIVORCE AND ADMIRALTY, TO WALTER FINDLEY, late of a Cedar-grove Terrace Park Liverpool in the County of Lancaster Journeyman. Citation has been issued in the Division citing you to appear before the Court of Probate at Liverpool, Wicks of the Royal Exchange, on 21st June, 1897, to give evidence in respect thereof. Please furnish notice of your appearance, you will be called to swear the said Citation. The Court will proceed to hear the same on 22nd June, 1897. You are within 20 days after the date of this publication to appear in person or by your Solicitor at the Court of Probate, Liverpool, and there enter as appears in a book provided for that purpose. MARY A. PATRICK, Registrar.

B. WICKING SMITH AND SON, 51 Lincoln's Inn Fields, Solicitors.

PRIVATE ENQUIRIES

Of every description made by J. MORGAN, pernicious Inspector of Drays & Wagons, expert—Apply, G. More's Garage, Carew-street, W.C.

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MATRIMONIAL.

YOUNG Man wishes to keep company with married women. Address, 19, Arundel-street, Strand.

MATRIMONY—Gentleman, 16, with some money in trust, desires loving young wife. Address, 16, Strand.

MATRIMONY—Doctor, 30, not knowing desirable wife, wishes someone correspondence, and a few words to lovely marriageable people. Address, 16, Strand.

A Gentleman wishes to meet with suitable Partners in business, and a few words to lovely marriageable people. Address, 16, Strand.

MATRIMONY—Young Man, well educated, desires correspondence with an independent, well-to-do woman. Address, 16, Strand.

MATRIMONY—Wishes to marry, and a few words to lovely marriageable people. Address, 16, Strand.

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